

a consistent bases to mentor and expose the students to our government first hand; and

Whereas, this year, the civic leadership students who have been successful in their studies include Abraham Ameer, Dorian Bullock, Tommy Jones, III, Morgan Mathews and Carlton Williams; and

Whereas, his boundless energy and enthusiasm has opened nationally recognized opportunities, helping his students understand that their futures are as limitless as the skies; and

Whereas, we are grateful for the life and work of this outstanding teacher who defines the very essence of the profession; and

Now Therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim May 22, 2012 as Dr. Thomas Smith and the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. High School Civic Leadership Students Day in Georgia's 4th Congressional District.

ADVAIT "ADI" PATEL

HON. NICK J. RAHALL, II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor one of America's newest National Elementary Chess Champions, nine-year-old Advait "Adi" Patel, who hails from Logan County, West Virginia. This Logan Middle School fifth grader placed first in the recent competition that drew 2,200 young people to test their skills, stamina and heart. We salute all those who helped organize the competition and who nurture our country's future generations. In Adi's case, beyond the thrill of victory and the satisfaction of success, we can find useful lessons for both today's and tomorrow's leaders.

Competing with the latest video games and their striking graphics has not been the easiest time for the venerable game of chess, but one thing that can usually trump the newest technology is old fashioned love; especially the love of a grandfather in India, who took the time and patience to teach Adi how to play the game during a visit.

Adi's parents have been very supportive as well, taking him to faraway tournaments and providing him lessons and online access to other players. Importantly, they are behind his pursuit as long as he still loves the game, another feather in their parental caps.

Likewise, Adi is as thoughtful off the board as he is during a tough game. He recently commented in a local news story that, "It's fun to play, and there's no brawl in it—no fighting physically," Advait said. "It helps me with school, too. Math is a lot easier now. I've had straight A's ever since I started playing, because it teaches you how to focus. There is a lot of thinking in chess."

With our national focus on today's student science and math accomplishments translating into tomorrow's innovations and entrepreneurs, Adi's example sets exactly the right tone for his fellow students, teachers and school administrators alike.

Adi's chess coach, David Saville, believes a chess player's best skill is to be able to "visualize the future." I think we can all visualize a brighter future with the talent, values, hard work and dedication displayed by Adi, his coach and family.

RECOGNIZING ERIC BABCOCK

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the courageous actions of Grove City resident, Eric Babcock. On December 18, 2012, Eric rescued a neighbor's young granddaughter from the second floor of a burning garage.

I ask that all Members of Congress join me and the people of Ohio's 15th Congressional District in thanking Eric Babcock for his brave actions. Despite the grave risk to his own life, he selflessly rose to the occasion and saved the life of his young neighbor. For his heroism, Eric received well-deserved recognition from the Jackson Township Board of Trustees.

I extend my sincere thanks to Eric Babcock for his heroism. While to some he may be an ordinary person, his extraordinary act is exactly what makes me proud to represent the everyday heroes of the Central Ohio area.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF
CHARLES POWELL

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to pay tribute to a beloved community member and role model, Charles "Chuck" Powell. Chuck passed away on May 10, 2012 at the age of seventy-eight.

Chuck was born on July 3, 1933 in Franklin, Ohio, to Charles and Mamie Powell. He spent several years in Ohio, working as a steelworker until he joined the Air Force and relocated to the March Air Force Base in Riverside, California. During his time in the Air Force Chuck met his future wife, Geri Linton, whom he was married to for 56 years.

Chuck served as a milk distributor in Bloomington for 40 years, and was affectionately known as the "milk man" to all he served. During his free time, Chuck enjoyed coaching his sons youth baseball teams.

Chuck was also an avid golfer, and member of El Rancho Verde Country Club, where he previously served as President, and Vice President. His sons have fond memories of bonding over golf, the sport he loved.

I remember Chuck's competitive nature, his fondness for smoking his pipe, and how he loved a good debate with friends. We often played rounds of golf together; he was a close and dear friend of mine. I knew Chuck as having a deep passion for golf; he was always trying to improve his putting stroke in order to compete with the best golfers. Although Chuck was an outstanding golfer, I will always remember him Chuck for his charm, sense of humor, and ability to connect with everyone he met.

Chuck is best known by his family for his big heart and memorable advice for the people he touched. His children and grandchildren have fond memories of times with their father and grandfather. His son noted that he will never forget his father's sense of humor and the phone calls they would share after a good

round of golf. Chuck's grandchildren could always count on him to give sound advice and to put a smile on their face, even during the worst days.

Let us take the time to pay tribute to a wonderful man. Let us celebrate the life he led, and the positive example he set for others. Although he is no longer with us, his legacy and spirit will continue to live on through the lives of everyone he has touched.

Chuck is survived by his beloved wife, Geri Powell; his three sons, Bob, Neal, and Scott; two siblings, John and Margaret; and six grandchildren, Alyssa, Brooke, Tyler, Tori, Christine, and Chloe. My thoughts and prayers, along with those of my wife, Barbara, and my children, Rialto City Councilman Joe Baca Jr., Jeremy, Natalie, and Jennifer are with Chuck's family at this time. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to pay tribute to Charles Powell.

HONORING BIG WILLIE ROBINSON

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Mr. Willie Andrew Robinson III, affectionately known in Los Angeles and around the world as "Big Willie" Robinson. Big Willie Robinson was the founder and president of the International and National Brotherhood of Street Racers. He passed away on May 19, 2012 and will be sorely missed by his fellow Viet Nam veterans and the countless people who found a new sense of purpose in life as a result of Big Willie's work in the greater Los Angeles community.

Born on September 12, 1942 in New Orleans, Louisiana, Willie Robinson attended Louisiana State University in 1960 with the hope of playing football for the university. But because African-Americans were not yet allowed to play at LSU, Willie left after only one year to attend UCLA. Shortly after moving Willie found work in a Los Angeles area body shop. He bought his 1957 Oldsmobile, began street racing, and turned Louisiana's loss into Los Angeles's biggest gain.

Drafted into the Army in 1964, Willie Robinson was one of the first African-Americans to serve in the Green Berets in Vietnam, which he did with honor until 1966. From the time he returned to Los Angeles late that year until his death, Big Willie's trademark beret, fatigues and Brotherhood colors were known worldwide.

At 6'6" and over 300 pounds, Big Willie's immense physical stature paled in comparison to his iconic stature as a peacemaker and truce-broker among LA street gangs and people of all ethnic groups. Legendary Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley respected Big Willie's work so much that in 1974 he helped Big Willie to open the Terminal Island Brotherhood Raceway, which hosted street races while promoting non-violence and racial unity for over two decades.

Big Willie Robinson is one of the greatest ambassadors of hope and racial unity in this country during my lifetime. He was truly a God-send, and it is entirely fitting that he chose to live out his life's mission in the City of Angels. May Heaven receive Big Willie